IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS TEXARKANA DIVISION

TRAVELPASS GROUP LLC, PARTNER \$
FUSION INC, et al., \$
CIVIL ACTION NO. 5:18-CV-00153-RWS

Plaintiffs, \$

v. \$
MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL INC, et al., \$

Defendants.

ORDER

Jury selection in this matter is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, October 25, 2021, in Texarkana, Texas, before the undersigned. Trial is scheduled to begin immediately following jury selection.

- 1. The parties have filed their initial proposed jury instructions. The parties are **ORDERED** to meet and confer and attempt to resolve any outstanding disputes regarding jury instructions. No later than **5 p.m.** on **Saturday, October 23, 2021**, joint final proposed jury instructions and verdict form should be filed electronically via ECF and should also be sent to the Court in word processing format to the following email address: Andrew Schreiber@txed.uscourts.gov.
- 2. Exhibit lists reflecting the Court's rulings should be finalized and filed electronically via ECF no later than **5 p.m.** on **Friday, October 22, 2021**. An exhibit on a party's preadmitted exhibit list does not become part of the trial record unless it is used at trial and the corresponding exhibit number is read into the record. The parties will be given an opportunity to read exhibit numbers into the record before or at the conclusion of each trial

day.

- 3. Witness lists should be finalized to reflect the Court's rulings and filed electronically via ECF no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, October 22, 2021. Witness lists should reflect whether a witness will be testifying via deposition or in person.
- 4. Jury selection will consist of one session involving **28 persons**. The jury will consist of eight (8) persons. Counsel will conduct voir dire with **thirty (30) minutes** per side.
- 5. Immediately following voir dire, any party having any challenge for cause shall raise its cause challenges with the Court. The Court will also address hardship issues at this time. After resolving the parties' cause challenges and any hardship issues, the Court will take a 10-minute recess for the parties to exercise their peremptory challenges. The parties will be allowed to exercise up to **three (3) peremptory challenges** per side. The challenges will be exercised simultaneously by the parties, i.e., by the "blind strike" system.
- 6. Trial will begin immediately following jury selection. The Court will give preliminary instructions to the jury. The case will then be called for trial.
- 7. The parties have the option of providing jury notebooks. If provided, the jurors will have the notebooks with them during trial. An example juror notebook might contain (1) witness pages for each witness who will testify at trial, with a head and shoulders photo of the witness at the top of each page, name underneath, and ruled lines below for the jurors to take notes (witness pages should not distinguish between Plaintiffs' and Defendants' witnesses, or otherwise identify the witnesses beyond proper names); (2) a three-hole-punched and lined notepad; and (3) a pen. The parties may include other potentially helpful materials, within reasonable bounds of volume, upon which the parties can agree. The parties are **ORDERED** to send one copy of the agreed juror notebook to Judge Schroeder's

- chambers in Texarkana, Texas, by **5 p.m.** on **Friday, October 22, 2021**. The Court will let the parties know if modifications need to be made to the notebooks before the parties provide **ten (10) copies** of the notebooks to Judge Schroeder's chambers on **Monday, October 25, 2021**.
- 8. The parties will be permitted a maximum of **forty-five (45) minutes** per side for opening statements.
- 9. The parties will be permitted a maximum of **sixteen (16) hours** per side for direct and cross-examination.
- 10. Each witness will be questioned on direct examination by only one attorney, and only one attorney will be responsible for cross-examination of that witness. Only the attorneys who are responsible for examining and cross-examining a witness will participate in making and responding to objections regarding that witness's testimony.
- 11. Proceedings will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. and continue until approximately 5:00 p.m. each day.
- 12. The Court will be available before the beginning of trial each day to deal with evidentiary questions or other procedural matters. The Court will also be available at the end of the trial day to address any matters that need resolution at that time. If the parties are aware in advance of any such matter that needs to be addressed either before or after the court session, they should advise the law clerk and give notice to all other parties.
- 13. The parties are reminded to follow the General Order Regarding Courthouse Security Policies (General Order 18-06).
- 14. Any written dispute a party expects to raise with the Court before a trial day, including but not limited to disputes regarding exhibits and demonstratives, **SHALL** be submitted to the

Court by 10 p.m. the preceding evening. Any response shall be submitted by 7 a.m. the

following morning. Submissions shall be made via filings on ECF and/or via email to the

law clerk. The parties are required to meet and confer, although not in person, before

submitting a dispute to the Court.

15. Prior to closing arguments, the Court will conduct a charge conference and review the

parties' objections and proposals regarding jury instructions. Objections to the Court's

jury charge must be made during that conference with a statement of the reasons for each

objection. If a party objects to an aspect of the charge, a party must propose alternative

charge language that would cure the objectionable aspect of the instruction.

16. Closing arguments will be limited to forty-five (45) minutes per side. Plaintiff may

reserve one-third of its time for rebuttal argument.

17. A written copy of the charge will be given to the jury during deliberations. During

deliberations, the parties will be expected to remain near the courthouse and accessible by

phone unless released by the Court. The parties may pack up their exhibits during

deliberations but are expected to be able to provide additional copies of any exhibits or

demonstratives presented at trial if requested by the jury during their deliberations. The

parties are instructed to provide Judge Schroeder's courtroom deputy with a cell phone

number at which they can be reached.

18. In the event of settlement, the parties shall promptly notify the Court via electronic filing

or email.

SIGNED this 21st day of October, 2021.

ROBERT W. SCHROEDER III UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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